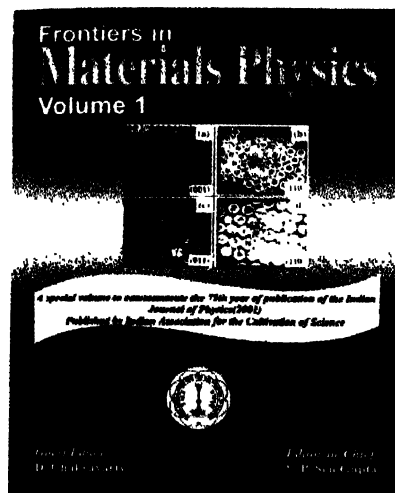


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## List of Contributors :

C. N. R. Rao, A. Govindaraj,  
F. Leonard Deepak and  
T. Poovarasam  
Ping Sheng, Weijia Wen,  
Lingyun Zhang, N. Wang,  
Z. Lin, H. Ma, C. T. Chan and  
Wing Yim Tam,  
C. C. Koch,  
D. Chakravorty, S. Banerjee,  
M. Pal, P. Brahma, S. Roy,  
B. Roy and D. Das  
S. K. Joshi and Ratan Lal  
A. K. Raychaudhuri  
H. Jain  
E. S. R. Gopal, J. T. Devaraju,  
and S. Asokan  
M. K. Senyal, S. Banerjee,  
S. R. Bhattacharyya,  
P. Chakraborty, T. K. Chini,  
A. Datta, D. Ghose, S. Hazra,  
S. Kundu and M. Mukherjee

## FROM EDITOR'S DESK

We are happy to announce that the year 2001 is a significant year in the history of IACS as it marks the celebration of two important events namely,

- 75th year of publication of Indian Journal of Physics
- 125th year of existence of Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science.

To commemorate these two events of historical interests, the Board of Editors has decided to publish Special Commemoration Volumes in a larger scale so as to reach all sections of readers. Consequently, 6 Special Volumes will be published (through Messrs. Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi) in frontier areas of current interests, along with another publication from us on "Landmark Publications in IJP in past 75 years". Volume 1 (Frontiers in Materials Physics) has just been published and other publications in the areas of Astrophysics (Vol. 2), Atomic and Molecular Physics (Vol.3), High Energy Physics (Vol. 4), Condensed Matter Physics (Vol. 5) and Biophysics (Vol. 6), will be made within this year. Announcements will appear in the IJP issues regularly and interested readers and subscribers, for the purchase of these Volumes, may contact us for 'Landmark Publication' and M/s. Allied Publishers Pvt. Ltd. for Volumes 1-6.

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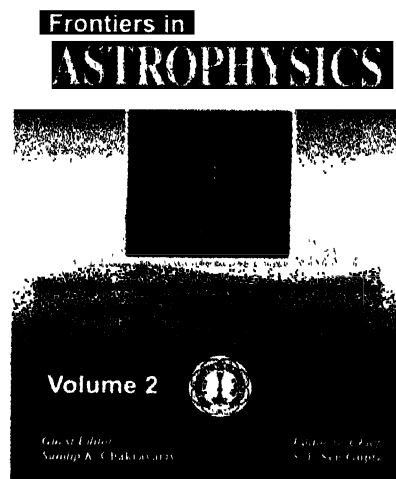
17 Chittaranjan Avenue, Kolkata-700 072

Mumbai

15, J. N. Heredia Marg, Ballard Estate, Mumbai-400 038

Chennai

751 Anna Salai, Chennai-600 002



## List of Contributors :

R.B. Partridge  
Jeremy Mould  
B.V. Sreekantan  
Pijushpani Bhattacharjee  
J.N. Bahcall  
S.G. Djorgovski, D.A. Frail,  
S.R. Kulkarnik, R. Sari,  
J.S. Bloom, T.J. Galama,  
F.A. Harrison, P.A. Price,  
D. Fox, D.E. Reichart,  
S. Yost, E. Berger,  
A. Diercks, R. Goodrich  
and F. Chaffee  
Sandip K. Chakrabarti  
P.C. Agrawal and A.R. Rao  
Lev Titarchuk

Berry C. Barish  
Paul J. Wilt

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The table of contents of this week's *Nature*, selected especially for physicists

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**Liquid crystals show superficial influence**  
The effect of a surface on the phase transitions of liquid crystals has been hard to see — until now (*Nature*, 9 January 2003)




**Nanoscale superfluidity confirmed**  
Calculations support the assertion that hydrogen becomes a superfluid in small molecular clusters (*Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 30 December 2002)



**United luminescence**  
Making light with organic semiconductors and quantum dots (*Nature*, 19 December 2002)



**Vanishing act**  
Solving the case of the disappearing antineutrino (*Phys. Rev. Lett.*, submitted for publication)



### news

From *Nature*, 9 January 2003

**Los Alamos directors resign after row over sacked whistleblowers**

**US societies unite in plea for boost to research budgets**

**Indian prime minister pledges to revamp science**

**Comet mission hangs in the balance**

**High-altitude observatory meets mounting opposition**

**Radio telescope plan gets inaugural chief**

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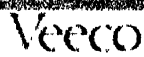
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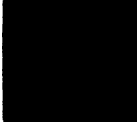
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Solving the case of the disappearing antineutrino (*Phys. Rev. Lett.*, submitted for publication)




##### Background information

Microwave background measurements probe mysteries of the cosmos (*Nature*, 19 December 2002)



##### In brief: Colouring by numbers

Searching for solutions to the graph colouring problem (*Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 9 December 2002)



#### news

##### From *Nature*, 19 & 26 December 2002

CERN collider project back on track

Mass resignation forces Italian rethink on university funds

ESA weighs up future after Ariane explosion

Neutrino projects are poles apart, says panel

opinion : Trust and how to sustain it

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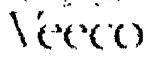
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#### Hollow promise

Improving the light transmission of optical fibres with air  
(*Nature*, 12 December 2002)




#### Blocked pores

Artificial nanopores used for molecular sensing  
(*Nano Letters*, 3 December 2002)




#### In brief: Excited to zero

Superconducting-like states induced by microwave excitation  
(*Nature*, 12 December 2002)



#### In brief: Guided by the light

Laser light used to direct the growth of nerve cells  
(*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, 10 December 2002)



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#### From *Nature*, 12 December 2002

NASA roadmap charts route to a quarter-century of exploration

#### Paper trail reveals references go unread by citing authors

#### Ousted creationist sues over website

#### Europe's astronomers reflect on plans for giant telescope

#### opinion: Prioritizing Australia

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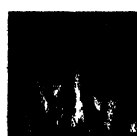
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**Same old drag**  
Self-similar bending is key to reducing fluid drag (*Nature*, 5 December 2002)  


**A poor mix**  
Sometimes mixing causes granular materials to unmix (*Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 25 November 2002)  


**In brief: A soft touch**  
Probing the dynamics of atomic clusters with soft-X-ray lasers (*Nature*, 5 December 2002)  


**In brief: Fusion at a pinch**  
Z-pinch X-ray sources hint at next step towards controllable nuclear fusion (*Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 26 November 2002)  


**More highlights...**

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**From *Nature*, 5 December 2002**  
**Funding freeze leaves eastern Germany out in the cold**  
**Postdoc positions axed as economic crisis takes its toll**  
**Royal Institution's director blasts scientific sexism**  
**Holed reactor causes leak in fusion finances**  
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***8th International Symposium on  
Advanced Materials  
ISAM 2003  
Islamabad, Pakistan***

**8-11 September 2003**

The ISAM-2003 as usual shall comprise of invited/keynotes, contributory papers as well as poster presentations. A large number of materials scientists/engineers of international repute from different parts of the globe are expected to attend the symposium.

***Symposium Topics :***

1. Development and Production
2. Polymers, Composites and Intermetallics
3. Processing and Surface Engineering

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**Dr. A. A. Mazhar**  
Secretary Symposium  
Dr. A. Q. Khan Research Laboratories Kahuta  
P.O. Box 905, Rawalpindi  
Pakistan  
E-mail : [isamkrl@hotmail.com](mailto:isamkrl@hotmail.com)  
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### **Nanomaterials–2003**

#### **National Seminar on Science & Technology of Nanomaterials 6–7 March, 2003**

**Organised by** : West Bengal Academy of Science & Technology  
(Physical Sciences Section)

**&**

Materials Research Society of India  
(Kolkata Chapter)

**Venue** : MNS Auditorium, Central Glass & Ceramic Research  
Institute (CGCRI), Jadavpur, Kolkata

**High light** : The 2-day seminar will mainly focus upon following  
topics :

- ☐ *Synthesis of nanocrystalline materials*
- ☐ *Characterisation of nano-materials—structural,  
physical and mechanical*
- ☐ *Nano technology—Device, Applications &  
Possibilities*
- ☐ *Overview—panel discussions*

**Seminar includes Invited Talks & Oral/Poster presentations on  
the above topics.**

**Abstracts in 250 words to be sent before 31 December, 2002.**

**Confirmation of participation with Registration Fee (Rs. 200/  
Rs. 100 for research fellows) to be sent before 31 January, 2003.**

#### ***Information from :***

Professor S P Sen Gupta (Convener)  
Department of Materials Science,  
IACS, Jadavpur, Kolkata-700 032  
e-mail : msspsg@iacs.res.in

Dr. A Ghosh (Secretary)  
Department of Solid State Physics,  
IACS, Jadavpur, Kolkata-700 032  
e-mail : sspag@iacs.res.in